

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 NEA-10

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FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8629

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 3206

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UNSC, PFOR, TU, GR

SUBJ: GREEK-TURKISH AEGEAN DISPUTE: TURKISH PERM REP CALLS ON  
GOVERNOR SCRANTON

1. SUMMARY: TURKISH PERM REP TURKMEN CALLED ON GOVERNOR  
SCRANTON AT 11:45 A.M. AUGUST 12 IN CONNECTION WITH THE  
UPCOMING SECURITY COUNCIL DEBATE ON THE AEGEAN DISPUTE.  
TURKMEN INDICATED CONCERN THAT THE WORKING PAPER UNDER CON-  
SIDERATION BY EUROPEAN COUNCIL MEMBERS WOULD TILT TOWARD  
GREEK VIEWPOINTS. HE STRESSED THAT NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN  
GREECE AND TURKEY WERE CONTINUING PROCESS AND THAT GREEK  
REQUEST FOR SC MEETING INTERRUPTED THESE BILATERAL NEGOTIA-  
TIONS. TURKMEN REPEATED VIEW THAT SISMİK'S ACTIVITIES DID  
NOT ESTABLISH TURKISH RIGHTS IN THE AEGEAN; TURKISH EX-  
PLORATIONS WERE NO MORE OR LESS THAN WHAT GREEKS HAD DONE  
EARLIER IN THE AEGEAN. END SUMMARY.

2. TURKISH PERM REP TURKEMN ASKED TO CALL ON GOVERNOR  
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SCRANTON TO DISCUSS SECURITY COUNCIL DEBATE ON THE AEGEAN

CONTINENTAL SHELF DISPUTE. APPOINTMENT WAS ARRANGED FOR 11:45 A.M. AUGUST 12 WITH AMBASSADOR BENNETT ALSO PRESENT. TURKMEN OPENED DISCUSSION BY REFERRING TO A WORKING PAPER HE UNDERSTOOD WAS BEING PREPARED BY BRITISH, FRENCH AND ITALIAN DELEGATIONS. TURKMEN SAID IF SUCH WORKING PAPER REFERRED TO CESSATION OF TURKISH EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES AND TO RECOMMENDATION THAT INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE TAKE ON JURISDICTION FOR DISPUTE THEN TURKS WOULD TAKE EXCEPTION. TURKMEN ADDED THAT ACTIVITIES OF TURKISH SHIP SISMİK DID NOT IN TURKISH VIEW ESTABLISH RIGHTS; IN FACT THE GREEKS HAD CONDUCTED SIMILAR EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES EARLIER. HE CONTINUED THAT GOT CONSIDERED THAT RIGHTS COULD BE DETERMINED ONLY THROUGH NEGOTIATIONS.

3. TURKMEN REMARKED THAT BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS WERE UNDERWAY AND THAT THIS ONGOING PROCESS HAD BEEN INTERRUPTED BY GREEK REQUEST FOR A SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING ON THE ISSUE. TURKMEN SAID THAT GREEK AIRCRAFT AND A WARSHIP HAD BEEN HARASSING THE SISMİK. GOVERNOR SCRANTON ASKED IF THERE WERE MORE DETAILS ON THIS HARASSMENT, BUT TURKMEN REPLIED HE HAD ONLY GENERAL INFORMATION ON GREEK ACTIONS.

4. TURNING TO THE SC DEBATE, TURKMEN SAID THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT WOULD NOT BE ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT ANY RESOLUTION, BUT IF THERE WAS TO BE SUCH HIS GOVERNMENT WOULD WANT IT TO FURTHER THE BILATERAL NEGOTIATING PROCESS AND NOT TO CONDEMN TURKISH EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES NOR TO CALL ON TURKEY TO CEASE ITS FURTHER RESEARCH EFFORTS.

5. TURKMEN REMARKED THAT IT WAS IMPORTANT THAT THE DIRECT NEGOTIATIONS CONTINUE. THE ISSUES AT STAKE WERE NOT ONLY JURIDICAL, BUT BROADER POLITICAL AND SECURITY PROBLEMS WERE INVOLVED. HE SAID TURKEY DID NOT EXCLUDE THE POSSIBILITY OF EVENTUALLY GOING TO THE INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE, BUT NEGOTIATIONS WERE IN TRAIN WHICH OBTAINED THE ICJ BECOMING INVOLVED AT LEAST UNTIL A LATER STAGE. TURKMEN REITERATED THAT THE TURKS WOULD NOT OBJECT TO TAKING THE MATTER TO THE HAGUE COURT AFTER THE BILATERAL NEGOTIATION PROCESS HAD FINISHED. THE COURT COULD PERHAPS BE USEFUL ON POINTS ON WHICH THERE MIGHT BE DIFFERENCES.

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TURKMEN CONCLUDED BY NOTING THAT TURKEY BELIEVED A SOLUTION WOULD HAVE TO BE FOUND ON THE BASIS OF EQUITY. IN THIS VEIN, THE TURKS HAD SUGGESTED A SHARING WITH THE GREEKS OF AEGEAN SEABED RESOURCES.

6. GOVERNOR SCRANTON EXPRESSED HIS APPRECIATION FOR AMB. TURKMEN'S VISIT AND SAID HE WOULD CERTAINLY BEAR IN MIND TURKMEN'S REMARKS.

SCRANTON

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